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JOINT BULLETINS NOS. 4 AND 5

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# Vermont Botanical and Bird Clubs

APRIL, 1919

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Published Annually by the Clubs

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1919

## **OFFICERS**

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SECRETARY, George P. Burns, Burlington.

TREASURER, Mrs. Nellie F. Flynn, Burlington.

EDITOR OF BULLETIN, George L. Kirk, Rutland.



## VERMONT BOTANICAL AND BIRD CLUBS

Joint Bulletins Nos. 4 and 5

April, 1919

One copy of this bulletin is sent to each member. Extra copies of this as well as copies of previous bulletins may be obtained of Mrs. Flynn at Burlington for 10 cents each.

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### TABLE OF CONTENTS

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Editorial .....   | 4  |
| Treasurer's Report .....  | 4  |
| Meetings of the Clubs, Nellie F. Flynn .....  | 5  |
| Plants New to Vermont Collected at Woodstock, Nellie F. Flynn.....                  | 7  |
| Additions to West River Valley Flora, Leston A. Wheeler.....                        | 8  |
| Along Highway and Cross-Country in Oklahoma, Alice E. Bacon.....                    | 8  |
| Night Observation of Birds, Mrs. A. B. Morgan .....                                 | 12 |
| Golden-Winged Warblers Summering in Rutland, Duane E. Kent....                      | 15 |
| Some New Stations for Rare Plants in Northeastern Vermont, Inez<br>Addie Howe ..... | 15 |
| Four Summer Meetings of the Hartland Nature Club, Mrs. A. B.<br>Morgan .....        | 19 |
| A Word Concerning Xanthiums, Nellie F. Flynn.....                                   | 20 |
| The Woodstock Bird Club .....   | 21 |
| Bird Lists  |    |
| Records for St. Johnsbury, 1917, Inez Addie Howe.....                               | 21 |
| Notes for 1918 .....  | 25 |
| Bird Migration at Stamford, Mary A. Sanford .....                                   | 25 |
| The Rutland List .....  | 26 |
| Utilization of Our Native Fruits, Mrs. A. B. Morgan .....                           | 26 |
| Notes .....   | 28 |
| In Memoriam   |    |
| Mrs. Nellie Hart Woodworth, Harold Goddard Rugg .....                               | 32 |
| Elroy Kent, George L. Kirk.....   | 32 |

## EDITORIAL

Like many other organizations the Vermont Botanical Club and the Vermont Bird Club were inactive during a part of 1917 and all of 1918 on account of the war in Europe. The epidemic which visited the state made it seem best not to attempt to call together for meetings even the few people who were not too busy with war or relief work to have attended so no material was at hand for use in a bulletin in 1918.

It has been thought best to combine Joint Bulletins 4 and 5 in this issue, publishing the various papers at what would have been the normal time for the 1918 Bulletin.

The clubs invite contributions of scientific or popular articles relating to the different phases of the natural history of Vermont from all persons who have the interest of the state at heart. So far only the plants, the birds and the mammals of the state have been listed. It is to be hoped that some person will later catalogue the mollusks, reptiles, butterflies, moths and other forms of life.

## TREASURER'S REPORT VERMONT BIRD CLUB

### RECEIPTS

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Cash on hand Jan. 26, 1917 ..... | \$ 21.19  |
| Annual dues .....                | 92.52     |
| Bulletin .....                   | .10       |
| Total .....                      | \$ 113.81 |

### EXPENDITURES

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| One-half bill for printing Joint Bulletin No. 3 .....          | \$ 30.48 |
| One-half for typewriting for bulletin .....                    | 1.50     |
| Postage .....  | 20.07    |
| Two years' dues to National Association of Audobon Societies.. | 10.00    |
| Printing programs, cards, receipts, etc. ....                  | 9.52     |
| One-half yearly dues to N. E. F. of N. H. S. ....              | 1.50     |
| Envelopes .....  | .82      |
| Total .....  | \$ 73.89 |
| Cash on hand July 6, 1918 .....                                | 39.92    |

\$ 113.81



**VERMONT BOTANICAL CLUB**

## RECEIPTS

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Cash on hand Jan. 26, 1917 ..... | \$ 105.96 |
| Annual dues .....                | 125.50    |
| From librarian .....             | 5.64      |
| Bulletins .....                  | 1.80      |
| Club pins .....                  | 2.60      |
| <hr/>                            |           |
| Total .....                      | \$ 241.50 |

## EXPENDITURES

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Lecturer and expenses .....                          | \$ 32.00  |
| One-half bill for printing Joint Bulletin No. 3..... | 30.49     |
| One-half bill for typewriting for bulletin .....     | 1.50      |
| Postage .....  | 33.14     |
| Printing programs, cards, réceipts, etc. ....        | 9.28      |
| Dues to N. E. F. of N. H. S. ....                    | 4.50      |
| Subscription to Rhodora .....                        | 1.50      |
| Envelopes .....                                      | .83       |
| <hr/>  |           |
| Total .....  | \$ 113.24 |

|                                 |        |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Cash on hand July 6, 1918 ..... | 128.26 |
|---------------------------------|--------|

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\$ 241.50

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Life membership fund ..... | \$ 140.00 |
|----------------------------|-----------|

|                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Accrued interest Jan., 1917 ..... | 11.52 |
|-----------------------------------|-------|

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|             |           |
|-------------|-----------|
| Total ..... | \$ 151.52 |
|-------------|-----------|

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NELLIE F. FLYNN.

**MEETINGS OF THE CLUBS****THE SUMMER MEETING OF 1917***Nellie F. Flynn*

This meeting of the club was held at Mount Mansfield July 7 to 9. There were about 30 members present, most of whom assembled the evening of the 9th at Green Mountain Inn, Stowe. On Tuesday we started by automobile and wagon for the Summit House on Mount Mansfield, which was reached shortly after noon.

After a good dinner a trip was taken to the highest point of the mountain, the Chin. The rare high mountain plants, the diapensia, *Diapensia Lapponica*, the mountain blueberries and cranberry, *Vaccinium uliginosum*, *V. caespitosum*, *V. pennsylvanicum* var. *angustifolium* and *V. Vitis-Idea*, were all seen besides several carices and other plants of high altitudes. The orchis, *Listera convallarioides* was found in the swamp near the hotel.

The evening was occupied with a sunset party on the side of the Nose and a business meeting and social hour.

Wednesday morning all hands started for Smugglers' Notch, most of us on foot by the Long Trail; the rest, not up to the walk, were conveyed by team.

The more strenuous members climbed to the foot of the cliffs on either side of the Notch and were rewarded by the three mountain saxifrages, *Saxifraga Aizoon*, *S. Aizoides*, and *S. oppositifolia*, the rare ferns, *Woodsia glabella*, and *W. alpina*, and *Asplenium viride*, the hemlock parsley, *Conioselinum chinense*, the fleabane, *Erigeron hyssopifolius*, and the grass, *Festuca ovina* var. *brevifolia*.

After lunching and botanizing around the big spring, where *Listera convallarioides* was again collected, we started for Stowe, stopping again on our way to visit Bingham Falls and shortly had turned our faces homeward after another of our highly interesting and entertaining meetings.

#### THE SUMMER MEETING OF 1918

The members of the Vermont Botanical and Bird Clubs to the number of 15 gathered at Child's Tavern at Wilmington, the evening of July 9. Next day several more were added to our number so that in all 25 members were present. The 10th was spent in a trip to West Dover, botanizing along the Deerfield valley. Rain drove us home early in the afternoon. Interesting sedges, blackberries and the pearlwort, *Sagina procumbens*, were found, among other things.

The forenoon of the 11th a trip was made to Lake Sadawga in Whitingham to see the floating islands. No boat was available to get to them so we had to be content with one anchored to the shore but otherwise with all of the characteristics of the floating ones. Here we found the usual shrubs, sedges and orchids of sphagnum swamps and, what was best of all, the arrow arm, *Peltandra virginica*. Rain came again as we drove back to dinner. In the afternoon we were out again to Ray pond only to have the rain beat us.



The 12th was a beautiful day and we climbed Haystack mountain for the beautiful view and the good botanizing along the way. Many interesting things were seen and collected but nothing particularly new was found. The blackberry specialists may have something to report later.

A good time was had in spite of the rain and the hotel accommodations were excellent.

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## PLANTS NEW TO VERMONT COLLECTED AT WOODSTOCK

Nellie F. Flynn

Miss Elizabeth Billings is making an herbarium of the plants of Woodstock and the past summer (1918) Miss E. M. Kittridge of the New York Botanical garden staff did the collecting and mounting for her. Miss Kittridge brought me in June specimens of plants new to Vermont that had been found by her and former collectors for Miss Billings. These have been deposited in the University of Vermont herbarium.

The plants are the chickweed, *Stellaria strictifolia* (collected by Mrs. Porter) with the comment written on the sheet that it is what has been going under the name *S. longipes* but that true *longipes* has obtuse sepals. It might be mistaken for *S. graminea* or *S. longifolia*.

The heather was collected by Miss Kittridge but was first discovered on Mount Tom by a maid in the Billings household. A new yarrow, *Achillea ligustica*, was found growing in a patch of common yarrow. It attracted Miss Kittridge's attention because of the darker green color of the leaves. The pigweeds, *Chenopodium leptophyllum*, collected by Miss Kittridge by the roadside, and *C. lanceolatum*, found by Mrs. Porter, were in the bunch as were *Habenaria hyperborea* var. *huronensis* (not in Gray's Manual but determined by New York Botanical garden), *Thalictrum purpurascens*, collected by Mrs. Porter.

Miss Kittridge also presented two colored photographs to the club herbarium, one of *Pogonia affinis* alone and one of that plant and *P. verticillata* together. These are from plants collected on Long Island but are interesting as the plants are very rare in Vermont, only one plant of *affinis* having been collected (by Mrs. Holt at Burlington). *P. verticillata* is known from only three stations and there are years together when no plants are found at these stations.



## ADDITIONS TO WEST RIVER VALLEY FLORA

Leston A. Wheeler

The following plants new or rare in West River valley were collected in 1917: *Oxalis filipes*, Brookline and Townshend; *Hieracium floribundum*, Brookline; *Antennaria canadensis*, *Asplenium angustifolium*, *Arabis hirsuta*, Jamaica; *Aspidium spinulosum*, Brattleboro; *Aconitum Napellus*, Newfane and Stratton, the latter on Deerfield river section; *Potentilla pumila*, Newfane, Saxtons River; *Selaginella apus*, *Lycopodium clavatum* var. *monostachyon*, *Sagina procumbens*, *Phlox paniculata*, Newfane; *Polystichum Braunii*, (W. H. Blanchard's station), *Medicago sativa*, *Lychnis chalcidonica*, *Galium verum*, Townshend.

The following notes may prove interesting: *Ophioglossum vulgatum* was collected from 16 colonies during the past season, all new to me; one colony, beside Grout pond in Stratton, altitude 2,225 feet, produced the largest and finest fronds that I ever saw.

Two plants of *Botrychium obliquum*, with double fertile fronds were found. One frond of the type and one of the variety were collected from the same root of *Polystichum acrostichoides*. One frond of *Osmunda regalis*, measuring 24 by 54 inches, was collected and one of *Onoclea sensibilis* with the fertile frond 26 inches and the sterile 49 inches in height were found. A beautifully dense feathery form of *Lycopodium clavatum* was found in Newfane. The red flowered form of *Lillium canadense* was collected in Townshend growing with the type and with an intermediate form.

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## ALONG HIGHWAY AND CROSS-COUNTRY IN OKLAHOMA

Alice E. Bacon

It is a far cry from Bradford, Vt., to Lawton, Okla. Lawton is in the extreme southwestern part of the state, three miles from Fort Sill and Camp Doniphan, which are on a government reservation of some 70,000 acres, which only a year ago was a paradise for flower lovers. Where now barracks and tenches, aviation fields and observation towers, rifle ranges and cannon, soldiers in the United States artillery and recruits in the process of training reign supreme, only a short time ago was largely given over to the prairie dog and jack rabbit and Molly cottontail and the coyote, and was covered with a carpet of flowers that rivaled California's boasted fields.

It is not my intention to even enumerate all the flowers seen and collected during a stay of eight months, but only to tell of those that for their abundance, beauty or novelty impressed themselves on my mind. Many species familiar to us in Vermont are there in profusion; others cultivated in gardens here are there seen in their native habitat growing in a luxuriance undreamed of north.

The all-day ride across the state from the northeastern to the southwestern corner was, even in October, a thing to be remembered for beauty and interest. The soil of the state is in the main a red clay, varying in tint from light rose to vivid vermilion. This alone would dazzle the eye, but far and near were patches of golden sunflowers, rudbeckias, coreopsis, purple ironweed, blazing star, goldenrod, asters, boltonias and hosts of others, impossible to identify from a moving train. One, growing quite close to the ground in vivid purple mats, was later identified as a very beautiful star thistle, which dries perfectly for winter bouquets, keeping both shape and color.

Every cabin and dugout, ranch house and water tank, was gay with cypress vines and nasturtiums, morning glories and moon flowers; immense castor oil plants shaded the windows and great beds of cannas and caladium and chrysanthemums surrounded the way stations. It was color, color everywhere under the brilliant sunshine and cloudless skies of Oklahoma. Great fields of cotton with its bursting bolls, feterita and milo maize with their peculiar heads of ripening grain, Sudan grass and cane and Kaffir corn all added to the charm of a novel and most interesting panorama. Shortly before Christmas we began to see the mistletoe, which is very abundant around Lawton and is shipped north in large quantities. Wagon loads are sold in the streets and the large pearly berries are most beautiful and are borne in great profusion. Its favorite host seems to be the oak, although it scarcely disdains any tree on which it may obtain foothold; I saw trees on which no natural foliage could be seen, so densely was it covered with the lovely parasite.

Winters are short in Oklahoma and early in March the landscape was suddenly transformed by the blossoming of thousands of peach trees, plums, apricots, prunes and cherries, the apple coming a little later. Along the roadsides and over the rocks were thickets of wild Chickasaw plums not over three or four feet in height and a mass of bloom, and the brooksides were suddenly blue with *Viola conspersa*, growing in abundance rarely seen in the north, and anemones seemed to be everywhere.

White *erythronium*, many of the flowers pale pink, carpeted the richer uplands and along the water-courses the red-bud, one of our most beautiful flowering trees, flaunted its crimson banners, a challenge to the eye for a long distance; one creek in particular had its bank for miles crowded with this exquisite tree literally loaded with flowers, each tree a perfect bouquet.

A little later a drive out into the oil country found the country bright blue with millions upon millions of the flowers of the blue-eyed grass growing in unbelievable profusion. A few miles farther showed milk vetch and *Nothoscordium*, *Gilia linearis*, *Verbena Canadensis*, and, in the moister places, butter-weed gave variety to the scene.

About the middle of April, Nature suddenly went mad and poured out blossoms with such lavishness and in such a variety of colors one's head reeled in trying to see all. *Baptisia tinctoria*, *Astragalus* and other leguminosae, *Amsonia*, *Zizia aurea*, shone cream color or purple or blue or gold; *Oxalis violaceae* spread an exquisite violet carpet in the meadows, the deep blue spiderwort of our northern old-fashioned gardens grew everywhere boldly by the roadsides, and zephyranthes gaily nodded their dainty pink and white bells in the wind. Every day brought flowers new and charming, but one of the most beautiful of all was an evening primrose, *O. laciniata* var. *grandiflora*, with low-growing, widely-spreading plants often two and one-half to three feet in diameter and absolutely covered with great, sweet-scented snowy blossoms glowing in the dusk like fairy dancing grounds, and visited by the fairies in the shape of large, velvety moths that came in myriads to feast on honey-dew.

Scarcely less interesting is *O. pallida*, a taller growing plant with its white flowers turning to an exquisite pink. At this time we began to note a verbena—*V. bipinnatifida*, like our garden verbenas, only of a bushy rather than a trailing habit, and bearing countless heads of flowers in all shades of purple and mauve.

Toward the last of April two mallows became very conspicuous, the Callirhoe, or poppy mallow of our gardens, growing in the clay along the dusty roadsides and showing great bouquets of bright crimson blooms each from two and one-half to four inches in diameter; and the false mallow, *M. coccineum*, in much the same habitat and in even greater abundance, with smaller flowers, bright orange rather than "pink-red." It was strikingly in evidence, especially on the reservation, while the red-seed dandelion was common on the city's outskirts.

Another interesting plant found at this time was the *Psoralea escu-*



*lenta*, the *pomme de blanche* or the *pomme de prairie* of the early voyagers, with its long edible root, and its sister plant, *P. tenuiflora*.

Early in May the wild hyacinth, *Camassia esculenta*, the quamash of the Indians, was filling the air with its fragrance, growing freely in certain localities, and giving the effect of a delicate lavender mist, while its near relative, the wild garlic, although most beautiful to look upon, was so offensive when gathered we were content to admire it at a distance. The bulb of the quamash is greedily eaten by the Indians and when roasted is agreeable to the civilized palate. The compositae were now forging to the front and gaillardias, in nowise different from those in our gardens, sprang up by the thousand over the prairies and pentstemons in variety were thickly scattered through the pastures and by the wayside. *Calylophis serrulata*, *Gaura filipes*, *Stenosiphon linifolius* represented the Evening Primrose family; also *O. linifolia* and *O. glauca* were very conspicuous on the waste lands around Lawton. Great patches of rather dirty white attracted attention in the wilder parts of the reservation, and on examination proved to be white sage; while *Chamaesaracha sordida*, *Solanum elaeagnifolium* or white horse-nettle, the tomatillo—*Physalis Ixocarpa*, with its curious fruit were reasonably abundant on waste ground.

By the middle of May, the Spanish bayonet was throwing up its great spikes of cream-colored flowers, *Oxytropis* was royal purple, deep violet and occasionally white, and the standing cypress was coming into flower in but one locality, out at Medicine Park, Lawton's summer resort; a large flowered pentstemon was becoming common in the pastures, and blue toad-flax along sandy stretches; *Vicia ludoviciana* was covering low wayside bushes with a wealth of purple bloom. Another of our garden favorites was growing by the millions among the rocks of the Wichita mountains—the golden coreopsis, with the deep red and red-brown centres, and others solid yellow blossoms flaunting from every crevice and waving defiantly in the wind; sensitive brier was fairly common and the wild white larkspur thrust its tall torches through the undergrowth. A rather odd flower was found at this time, the *Oxybaphus nyctagineus* or vinegar saucer with its curious and conspicuous involucre. *Phlox paniculata* carpeted the ground in dense patches literally covered with pink or white flowers.

Cacti were much in evidence the last of May, but only two species, *Mamillaria missouriensis* var. *caespitosa* and the Prickly Pear, the latter very common and a most uncomfortable neighbor in spite of the beauty of the flowers of primrose and buff and golden yellow; notwith-

standing its loveliness it is unloved, although its fruit is edible and is sometimes preserved by the housewife.

My last find was a tiny bit of rather soiled-looking cotton flannel, which Prof. M. L. Fernald of Harvard University kindly identified as *Erax multicaulis* var. *Drummondii*; it is not described in Gray's Manual and had never before been listed from Oklahoma. During my stay I did not find any orchids nor did I see any ferns; the latter probably because that section is quite dry and there is little standing or running water as compared with Vermont.

That part of the state has not been opened for white settlement many years and the flora for the most part remains as of old. But conditions are rapidly changing and the wild flowers will disappear as in older states.

At present it is a paradise for the botanist and it should be thoroughly exploited before it is too late. My observations were most superficial and by no means represent the reward of an active, practical botanist, yet more than once I came home with 20 or more new finds, nearly all seen from a moving automobile.

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## NIGHT OBSERVATION OF BIRDS

Mrs. A. B. Morgan

"Where do birds spend the night?" is a question I might never have been able to answer even in a small degree had it not been that for the past 10 years I have lived almost in the woods and have occupied a sleeping porch from early spring to late fall. I have also discovered that an automobile driven at night reveals the sleeping quarters of many birds by startling them from their perch.

Several times while passing a rocky height that might well be in the Alps themselves, thrushes have flashed across our path, and on the same road we have surprised a screech owl in his hunting. A pair of veeries have nested for several years just across the road, directly in front of the house, and evidently the male has its particular tree down the lane where it perches, since invariably when the car passes it at night, out he flies. That other birds select and keep the same general perch for the season I must infer from my observations, though to what extent, it is unwise to speculate. A cuckoo has occupied an elm tree near the house successively and often calls softly during the passing hours of the night. This characteristic of the bird is indicated by the following item: "The city man had gone camping with his six-

year-old son," says Harper's Magazine. "The two were in the depths of a forest when the youngster startled the father by the following: 'Dad, I can hear the cuckoo but I can't see any clock.'"

For nine years, recognized by its song, the same song sparrow came back to its home in "The Highlands" garden and at night perched high in the crab-apple tree that stands at the end of the piazza. Often just at midnight he would send forth his clear, sweet notes that in the stillness seemed emphasized and purified. This year he came no more—a new songster, not half so sweet, was in the garden, and no notes of his sounded from the crab-apple tree. Instead a white-throated sparrow, that with its mate has nested for the first time near the house, revealed frequently that he is one of the finest of night singers. I was interested to read the following in a recent novel touching upon Idaho bird life:

"What is the bird that sings far into the night?"

"The bird that says 'Sweet, sweet, please listen to me, won't you?'"

"Yes, or something equally as plaintive, at any rate."

"It's the white-crowned sparrow. You'll hear it through the darkest nights. Its song has all the somber quality of the dark hours. It's our American nightingale."

This is not the generally accepted bird to bear that title as to the veery has often been referred to as much, and on June evenings frequently sings from twilight into the night. Sometimes in our near-by sugar-bush the three species—wood, hermit and veery—are singing in turn, and as the shadows deepen the voice of the hermit recedes into the deep woods, then the "quit, quit" of the wood announces its departure, leaving the veery still singing. On rare occasions it slips into a low-branched cherry tree near my window where I can hear its undertones, and see the pulsing of its throat. At such times the depth and beauty of its notes could surely win it the title of the "American Nightingale."

The oven bird is one of the most striking of the night singers, and only reveals its daytime self by the abrupt ending to its love song with the conventional "teacher, teacher." For many weeks I hear it almost nightly, the ascending and descending notes vibrant with ecstasy and so sharp as to awaken one from sleep.

Near at hand in the syringa bush, chipping sparrows pass the night, and this year after the little ones were raised the whole happy family would chatter to each other as they stirred in their sleep. Chestnut-sided warblers that built in the lane perched in the grape vine, as their twitterings announced, and a pair of robins perched as well as nested in the big maple whose protecting branches reach to the piazza.



During our first year at "The Highlands" a pair of screech owls came often to this tree, and I learned that they have many additional notes other than the familiar "Who-o-o-o." They converse with each other, often making a sobbing or whining sound, or a sweet whistle. Our occupancy of the house has sent them back to the deep woods, whence we hear, also, the hoot of the big horned owl.

One of the interesting things I have noted is the regularity with which birds go to their nightly rest. I have tried the experiment of feeding my chickadees particularly appetizing morsels at close of day, but invariably when the shadows deepen they are off as by magic, and at this time of year, never later than 4.30. In the morning they always appear from the same direction in the woods below, and I have little doubt, occupy one of the many woodpeckers' holes with which the trees abound.

For several years one of my greatest pleasures has been to watch a flock of bluebirds, during late summer and early fall, winging their way each night across our valley to a wooded hillside that long receives the rays of the setting sun. As is well known, the call of the bluebird slightly more plaintive, perhaps, in fall than spring, is one of its chief charms, and this flock calling softly in their evening flight, which is timed almost to a minute, adds color and joy to the day.

All are familiar with the evening flight of the crows and know that they have their established rookeries and that migrating birds in spring occupy the same "roosts" from year to year. For the past five years I have observed one of these not far from here in a small maple grove bordering a meadow. This year such numbers of robins and blackbirds assembled there that various reports came to me that there were *thousands* of birds to be seen on the meadow in the early morning. At night the medley of sounds that came from that quarter was truly marvelous, and above it sounded the call notes of the sentinels that were beating "tattoo." Foggy nights in the fall may so confuse migrating birds, that another opportunity may be afforded to pick out in the confusion of sounds the call notes of thrushes, robins, vireos or sparrows, and to find these same birds feeding in shady lanes the next morning.

It has been a satisfying discovery to me that the birds that I see so familiarly by day about "The Highlands" are in the nearby trees at night, and that their sleep seems not to be disturbed by anything more serious than an exuberance of feeling that finds expression in sleepy twitterings or thrilling song.

## GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLERS SUMMERING IN RUTLAND

*Duane E. Kent*

For the past few years singing males of the golden-winged warbler have been seen in Rutland county. On June 1, 1913, G. L. Kirk of Rutland and myself heard singing in a thicket at Muddy Pond, near the city of Rutland, a strange bird which we afterwards learned was a golden-winged warbler. I did not hear the song again until May 30, 1915, when I was at the pond once more. A male was heard singing and was seen. During the entire time that I was there, making a futile search for the nest, 5 a. m. to 11 a. m., the bird was in song almost continually, either in the alders or perched 40 to 50 feet from the ground in an elm tree. On June 6 I made another visit to the place and heard the bird singing, but was again unsuccessful in finding the nest.

On June 11, 1916, R. Clyde Spaulding of Rutland and the writer were at the pond once more. This time we saw two male golden-wings and heard them sing. One perched frequently in the favorite elm. We made a careful search through the whole locality for the nest but did not find it. We did, however, find an old nest which I could not identify as belonging to any species with which I was familiar and I decided it was the nest built by the golden-wing in 1915.

This year, 1918, I was at the pond on May 30 but found no golden-wings but about a third of a mile distant I heard three of the birds singing. They were in an alder thicket, bordering a pasture. A few days later Mr. Kirk visited this ground and hear one bird sing. No nest could be found.

On May 31, 1918, I collected a specimen of the golden-winged warbler near Fair Haven for Mr. Kirk and I heard another singing at that time.

On May 29, 1918, G. H. Ross of Rutland saw one of these warblers, a male, at Castleton.

So far no one in this locality has seen either a female or an immature golden-winged warbler.

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## SOME NEW STATIONS FOR RARE PLANTS IN NORTHEASTERN VERMONT

*Inez Addie Howe*

We are all familiar with the proverb that "all things come to him who waits" but in the case of the botanist it should read "all things

come to him who searches," searches carefully with eyes that see intelligently the area explored. Each year of my work as botanist at the Fairbanks museum has been rich in discoveries of plants new to Vermont and new stations for many rare species previously reported from other sections of the state.

Owing to a combination of circumstances very favorable for my work, the season of 1917 was the most profitable yet. Because of the lateness of the spring the flowers did not blossom plentifully until my lessons with the schools were finished. My collecting trips were planned to cover definite areas, making a canvass of all the plants found growing on each expedition with the view of compiling a flora of St. Johnsbury and vicinity at some future day. W. E. Balch, who commenced a series of photographs of the orchids of Vermont in 1916, was employed at the museum during the past season, and, wishing to revise and complete his series of photographs as far as possible, very ably assisted the general botanical work of the museum while photographing the orchids in their habitats. To his efforts much credit is due for the long list of new stations for Vermont plants that I have to present this year.

Several species of plants sent me for identification proved to be rare and unusual, one *Alchemilla pratensis*, sent in by Miss Mary L. Wheeler of Barton, being new to the state. *Galium*, *Mollugo* and *Galium verum* were sent from Barnet, *G. verum* coming from the same station from which it was recorded in 1916. *Stachys palustris* was sent from West Danville and later found growing profusely in a pasture west of the museum.

My herbarium specimens of many of the rare species which I shall mention are meagre in the extreme as I am fully convinced that unless botanists use more discretion in collecting in the future than they have in the past that all of the rarer species will soon come to exist in herbaria only. Such seems to be the case with *Orchis rotundifolia* in Vermont so far as I can ascertain, by my own efforts or by correspondence with other botanists, and this is only one of many rare forms on the verge of extinction if not already gone.

Instead of drying my rare plants, if I find them growing where there is danger of their being uprooted or destroyed, I carry them home and plant them in a locality as nearly as possible like the one from which they came. In this way I have a fine collection started, that "neither moth nor rust can corrupt" and I trust that thieves may not pass my trespass signs to steal them.



Two very rare ferns *Botrychium Lunaria* and *B. lanceolatum* var. *angustisegmentum* were found growing sparingly in St. Johnsbury, the former in a dry, open pasture, the latter in high maple woods. I found all of the species of *botrychium* that are listed in the Flora growing within five miles of the museum, also several new stations for *Ophioglossum vulgatum*.

In making a special study of the orchids of Caledonia county, we found many new stations for all common species. The best find of the season was a small colony of plants of *Epipactis decipiens*, the first reported for Vermont, so far as I know. A very large area of sturdy plants of *Epipactis pubescens* was found in old growth hemlock woods, the first station known in Caledonia county. *E. tessellata* and *E. repens* var. *ophioides* were fairly common in dry fir and hemlock woods in many sections of our town.

*Habenaria Andrewsii*, *H. leucophaea* and *H. clavellata* grow sparingly in Danville in open moist meadow land and very large colonies of *H. lacera* were found in similar localities in St. Johnsbury. *H. dilatata* var. *media* was found sparingly in sphagnum bogs in Peacham and St. Johnsbury.

Every species of *Spiranthes* listed in the Flora grows on my own place as well as 12 other orchids, making a total of 17 species on 15 acres.

In my territory covered last season I was pleased to find many rare species of plants spreading where I have carefully guarded them for some years.

In addition to the orchids and ferns, I was much interested in the study of *pyrolas* and located stations for all except *Pyrola minor*. The other seven were all shown on our flower tables at once, all collected within our local range. *Monotropa Hypopitys* was found in a fruiting stage in September in St. Johnsbury.

The richest locality that I visited was a small muddy pond about five miles from St. Johnsbury on the shores of which I found *Glyceria canadensis*, *Phalaris arundinacea*, *Carex lanuginosa*, *Lysimachia thyrsiflora*, *Myrica Gale*, *Pinus resinosa* and, in the water, *Ranunculus aquatilis* var. *capillaceus*, all new to our local flora. At Stiles' Pond *Eleocharis acicularis* and *Polygonum arifolium* were found growing profusely. *Polygonum lapathifolium* was found as a weed in a cultivated field and *Salsola Kali* var. *tenuifolia* grows abundantly by the highway just out of St. Johnsbury, toward Danville. A single plant of *Panax quinquefolium* was found growing in a high cool maple wood in Sept.

Evidently the last of a sturdy race that once inhabited that hill and had escaped the commercial ginseng hunter's greed.

*Vaccinium macrocarpon* is now known to grow in a bog almost within the village limits and *Artemisia Absinthium* in a dry hill pasture in one of our rural school communities. *Scirpus lineatus* grows sparingly in damp soil near the St. Johnsbury golf links and *Carex Tuckermanni* was found by Miss Shields in open woods near the village. In late October *Ilex verticillata* in fruit was found by school children.

On two trips to the Nine Island region at East Barnet, one on July 7 and another August 16, many interesting finds were made supplementing those recorded by the club in 1915. Among the new species listed from these expeditions were *Orobancha uniflora*, *Calamagrostis neglecta*, *Aster vimineus* var. *saxatilis*, *Ranunculus flammula* var. *reptans*, *Epipactis tesselata* and *Epipactis repens* var. *ophioides*, *Habenaria bracteata* and *H. Hookeri* also *Corallorrhiza maculata*, *Halenia deflexa*, *Woodsia obtusa* and *Asplenium platyneuron*.

This is a wonderfully profitable region, but even more so is the Harvey's Pond region at West Barnet. From two brief trips there, I am convinced that the pond, the shores, the surrounding woods and nearby mountains hold untold treasures for the botanist as well as for the ornithologist. Some of the rare treasures from this region in early July are *Microstylis monophyllos*, *Habenaria macrophylla*, *Monotropa Hypopitys*, *Pyrola chlorantha*, *Rhododendron maximum*, beside no end of water plants which grow in the entrance to the pond.

Another wonderful spot in northern Caledonia county is located on the road to West Burke and there all conditions combine, the high cool woods, the sphagnum swamp so shaky one does not dare to remain long in one place, the almost bottomless pond and here in turn grow *Epigaea repens*, *Andromeda glaucophylla*, *Chamaedaphne calyculata*, *Ledum groenlandicum*, *Kalmia angustifolia*, *Pyrola asarifolia* var. *incarnata*, *Sarracenia purpurea*, *Pogonia ophioglossoides*, *Calopogon pulchellus*, *Dulichium arundinaceum*, *Eriophorum callitrix*, and no end of others both precious and rare.

These are a few of the results of last season's work by the botanical department of the Fairbanks museum. From the various expeditions 46 new species were added to our local flora which covers a radius of five miles from the museum. Thirteen Vermont plants were added to our general herbarium. There were 786 species, including 22 mosses and lichens, shown during the season on our flower tables. Many more might have been displayed except for the fact that when

a species is rare or unusual I do not collect specimens until it becomes thoroughly established if possible to protect it.

Two species have been added to the flora of Vermont. Mr. Balch has photographed 47 of the 51 species of orchids listed for Vermont beside many other rare plants, thus perpetuating their usefulness as well as herbarium specimens could, and leaving the plants to grow again and again in their native habitats.

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## FOUR SUMMER MEETINGS OF THE HARTLAND NATURE CLUB

*Mrs. A. B. Morgan*

The first of these meetings was held in June at "The Highlands" when the Woodstock Bird Club was a guest of the Nature Club. Karl A. Pember, a member of the former club, showed a very complete collection of birds' eggs that was started 25 years ago, and his talk, partly reminiscent, was highly entertaining as well as instructive. Harold G. Rugg gave an illustrated talk on "The Hardy Fern Border," the specimens of English varieties of the lady fern being especially interesting. An expert from Washington explained the pine tree blight, advising that all currant and gooseberry bushes be eliminated in the vicinity of pine plantations.

In July many nature lovers gathered in the garden of Miss Darling's home where she gave a delightful talk on a collection of Alpine plants that Rev. S. G. Spear gathered in Switzerland as he and a friend tramped through the mountains. By means of an illustrated work on Alpine plants presented to the club by Mrs. Symonds of Huntington, L. I., she was able to classify all the species, numbering about 80 into 33 families. Several guests who had traveled in England and Switzerland gave personal observations that added greatly to the occasion.

The annual meeting, which now takes the form of a picnic and roll-call, was held in Hartland village on the lawn of the Steele estate. Miss Sturtevant read an interesting and comprehensive report of the year's work, and letters from absent members were enjoyed. Miss Kittredge, collecting for Miss Billings, showed several specimens new or rare in Vermont. At roll-call each member responded with some observation of interest. Jay G. Underwood, fresh from a trip with Mr. Winslow and Mr. Rugg for additional stations for *Aspidium Filix-mas*



reported that this fern grows always in the vicinity of butternut trees and at a high elevation. The picnic table, decorated in patriotic colors and filled with tempting and experimental delicacies, was not the least of the attractions of this meeting.

The September and October meetings were combined, and by invitation met with Mrs. W. H. Moore of Woodstock. Mrs. A. B. Morgan read a paper on "Definite Ecological Studies," which gave a careful exposition of the plants, animals and insects with their inter-relations as observed at "The Highlands" for the past nine years. Fully illustrated by fresh and mounted specimens, it conveyed a clear idea of ecology.

Mrs. W. E. Mack, who has a large herb garden, made her paper on "Garden Herbs: Their Culture and Use" highly instructive by an account of actual experiences, and a basket heaped high with bunches of fragment herbs caused exclamations of wonder and pleasure. Contributions by members included Mithridates paste, a compound of rue, juniper berries, figs and walnuts, rose conserve, rose drops and mint recipes. These gave spice to the occasion, which was one of the most delightful ever held by the club.

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## A WORD CONCERNING XANTHIUMS

Nellie F. Flynn

The Xanthiums, or clotburrs are the subject of a monograph by Dr. Millspaugh and Mr. Sheriff of Chicago, which is now in the hands of the printer.

I collected a bundle of the plants early in September, 1918, in response to an inquiry of Dr. Brainerd for information regarding a certain species which had been collected by him and Prof. L. R. Jones on the shore of Lake Champlain in Burlington. My specimens, except a few collected in another locality, were all growing in a space of less than a mile and the monographers reported that I had five good species, a surprisingly large number for one locality.

They mentioned *X. leptocarpum*, *X. curvescens* and *X. chinense*. It will be interesting for the members of the club to be on the lookout for different forms of this genus in order that it may be given critical study in Vermont. The plants may be found on the shores of lakes, ponds and rivers and in waste places.

## THE WOODSTOCK BIRD CLUB

The Woodstock Bird Club, which is a branch of the Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society of Woodstock, has had only a year's experience but it is already recognized as doing something worth while. Winter feeding stations have been placed in the parks by the club and individuals throughout the town have fed the birds from shelves and trees. Especially has the interest extended to the school children in the village and in the rural districts to feed and protect birds.

Nesting boxes were placed in gardens and near houses and many of them were occupied by nuthatches, chickadees and several pairs of house wrens. This emphasized the fact that the birds will nest near our homes if they are provided with desirable nesting boxes, placed early enough in the spring for them to arrange for their housekeeping, and if the everlasting English sparrow will let them alone. We have never had wrens until this last season.

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### BIRD LISTS

#### RECORDS FOR ST. JOHNSBURY, 1917

*Inez Addie Howe*

|                               | First Date | Last Date |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Chickadee .....               | .....      | .....     |
| Goldfinch .....               | .....      | .....     |
| Barred Owl .....              | .....      | .....     |
| Screech Owl .....             | .....      | .....     |
| White-breasted Nuthatch ..... | .....      | .....     |
| Red-breasted Nuthatch .....   | .....      | .....     |
| Northern Shrike .....         | .....      | .....     |
| English Sparrow .....         | .....      | .....     |
| Downy Woodpecker .....        | .....      | .....     |
| Hairy Woodpecker .....        | .....      | .....     |
| Pileated Woodpecker .....     | .....      | .....     |
| Blue Jay .....                | .....      | .....     |
| Ruffed Grouse .....           | .....      | .....     |
| Brown Creeper .....           | .....      | .....     |
| Snow Bunting .....            | Jan. 2     | Mar. 24   |
| Evening Grosbeak .....        | Jan. 6     | May 18    |
| Tree Sparrow .....            | Jan. 7     | Apr. 5    |
| Redpoll .....                 | Jan. 9     | May 18    |

|                              |         |          |
|------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Canada Jay .....             | Jan. 10 | Mar. 6   |
| White-winged Crossbill ..... | Jan. 10 | .....    |
| Pine Grosbeak .....          | Jan. 11 | May 18   |
| Pine Siskin .....            | Feb. 5  | May 22   |
| Hudsonian Chickadee .....    | Feb. 14 | .....    |
| Horned Lark .....            | Feb. 24 | Mar. 22  |
| American Goshawk .....       | Feb. 25 | Dec. 7   |
| American Crow .....          | Mar. 1  | Oct. 24  |
| Cedar Waxwing .....          | Mar. 5  | Dec. 8   |
| Bluebird .....               | Mar. 24 | Dec. 24  |
| Robin .....                  | Mar. 24 | Nov. 25  |
| Saw-whet Owl .....           | Mar. 25 | .....    |
| Song Sparrow .....           | Mar. 26 | Oct. 31  |
| Junco .....                  | Mar. 26 | Oct. 10  |
| Bronzed Grackle .....        | Mar. 28 | Oct. 13  |
| Phoebe .....                 | Mar. 31 | Oct. 16  |
| Broad-winged Hawk .....      | Apr. 3  | Sept. 24 |
| Canada Goose .....           | Apr. 3  | Nov. 8   |
| American Crossbill .....     | Apr. 3  | .....    |
| Marsh Hawk .....             | Apr. 4  | .....    |
| Red-winged Blackbird .....   | Apr. 5  | Sept. 18 |
| Prairie Horned Lark .....    | Apr. 5  | .....    |
| Red-tailed Hawk .....        | Apr. 5  | Oct. 13  |
| Ruby-crowned Kinglet .....   | Apr. 6  | .....    |
| Fox Sparrow .....            | Apr. 6  | .....    |
| Vesper Sparrow .....         | Apr. 13 | Oct. 16  |
| Field Sparrow .....          | Apr. 15 | Aug. 31  |
| Cowbird .....                | Apr. 15 | Sept. 21 |
| Meadowlark .....             | Apr. 15 | Aug. 22  |
| Savannah Sparrow .....       | Apr. 19 | Aug. 22  |
| Flicker .....                | Apr. 19 | Oct. 1   |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk .....     | Apr. 19 | Sept. 11 |
| Hermit Thrush .....          | Apr. 20 | Oct. 6   |
| Sapsucker .....              | Apr. 21 | .....    |
| Winter Wren .....            | Apr. 21 | Sept. 24 |
| White-throated Sparrow ..... | Apr. 22 | Oct. 16  |
| Belted Kingfisher .....      | Apr. 22 | Sept. 30 |
| English Starling .....       | Apr. 22 | Sept. 5  |
| Myrtle Warbler .....         | Apr. 22 | Oct. 12  |
| Chipping Sparrow .....       | Apr. 23 | Nov. 3   |
| Least Flycatcher .....       | Apr. 23 | Aug. 22  |



|                                   |         |          |
|-----------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Purple Finch .....                | Apr. 23 | Sept. 15 |
| Pine Warbler .....                | Apr. 28 | .....    |
| Yellow Warbler .....              | May 5   | Aug. 25  |
| Tree Swallow .....                | May 8   | .....    |
| Barn Swallow .....                | May 8   | Sept. 15 |
| Bank Swallow .....                | May 8   | Aug. 16  |
| White-crowned Sparrow .....       | May 11  | .....    |
| Black and White Warbler .....     | May 11  | Sept. 15 |
| American Osprey .....             | May 12  | .....    |
| Blue-headed Vireo .....           | May 12  | .....    |
| Great Blue Heron .....            | May 12  | .....    |
| Yellow Palm Warbler .....         | May 14  | .....    |
| Herring Gull .....                | May 14  | .....    |
| Cooper's Hawk .....               | May 16  | .....    |
| Spotted Sandpiper .....           | May 17  | Sept. 3  |
| Chimney Swift .....               | May 17  | Aug. 30  |
| Wilson's Thrush .....             | May 17  | Aug. 27  |
| Olive-backed Thrush .....         | May 18  | .....    |
| Baltimore Oriole .....            | May 18  | Aug. 21  |
| Warbling Vireo .....              | May 19  | Sept. 21 |
| Bobolink .....                    | May 19  | Aug. 16  |
| Ruby-throated Hummingbird .....   | May 19  | Sept. 3  |
| American Redstart .....           | May 20  | Aug. 16  |
| House Wren .....                  | May 20  | Sept. 3  |
| Cape May Warbler .....            | May 20  | June 4   |
| Magnolia Warbler .....            | May 20  | .....    |
| Black-throated Blue Warbler ..... | May 20  | .....    |
| Black-throated Green Warbler .... | May 20  | Sept. 5  |
| Ovenbird .....                    | May 20  | Aug. 22  |
| Blackburnian Warbler .....        | May 20  | .....    |
| Chestnut-sided Warbler .....      | May 20  | Aug. 25  |
| Maryland Yellowthroat .....       | May 20  | Sept. 14 |
| Bay-breasted Warbler .....        | May 20  | June 4   |
| Black-poll Warbler .....          | May 20  | June 4   |
| Kingbird .....                    | May 20  | Aug. 30  |
| Yellow-throated Vireo .....       | May 20  | Sept. 7  |
| White-eyed Vireo .....            | May 20  | .....    |
| Parula Warbler .....              | May 20  | .....    |
| Cerulean Warbler .....            | May 20  | .....    |
| Catbird .....                     | May 20  | Sept. 24 |
| Rose-breasted Grosbeak .....      | May 20  | Aug. 28  |

|                                 |          |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Great Crested Flycatcher .....  | May 20   | Aug. 16  |
| Grasshopper Sparrow .....       | May 20   | .....    |
| Solitary Sandpiper .....        | May 21   | .....    |
| Rusty Blackbird .....           | May 22   | Nov. 16  |
| Golden-crowned Kinglet .....    | May 22   | Nov. 2   |
| Faves Swallow .....             | May 24   | Aug. 31  |
| Sparrow Hawk .....              | May 24   | Aug. 31  |
| Nashville Warbler .....         | May 24   | .....    |
| Canadian Warbler .....          | May 24   | Aug. 31  |
| Scarlet Tanager .....           | May 25   | .....    |
| Duck Hawk .....                 | May 27   | .....    |
| Black Duck .....                | May 27   | .....    |
| Greater Yellow Legs .....       | May 27   | .....    |
| Tennessee Warbler .....         | May 28   | .....    |
| Whip-poor-will .....            | May 30   | .....    |
| Black-billed Cuckoo .....       | May 31   | .....    |
| Nighthawk .....                 | May 31   | Sept. 13 |
| Wood Pewee .....                | June 1   | Sept. 3  |
| Indigo Bunting .....            | June 1   | Aug. 12  |
| Swamp Sparrow .....             | June 1   | .....    |
| Connecticut Warbler .....       | June 1   | Aug. 10  |
| Olive-sided Flycatcher .....    | June 2   | .....    |
| Brown Thrasher .....            | June 2   | .....    |
| Red-eyed Vireo .....            | June 2   | Sept. 7  |
| Red-shouldered Hawk .....       | June 4   | .....    |
| Yellow-bellied Flycatcher ..... | June 4   | .....    |
| Mourning Warbler .....          | June 6   | .....    |
| Trail's Flycatcher .....        | June 6   | .....    |
| Towhee .....                    | June 8   | .....    |
| Water Thrush .....              | June 8   | .....    |
| Wilson's Warbler .....          | June 15  | .....    |
| Rough-legged Hawk .....         | June 17  | .....    |
| Upland Plover .....             | June 17  | .....    |
| Worm-eating Warbler .....       | June 24  | .....    |
| Purple Martin .....             | July 10  | .....    |
| Least Sandpiper .....           | Aug. 16  | .....    |
| Yellow-billed Cuckoo .....      | Sept. 9  | .....    |
| American Bittern .....          | Sept. 18 | .....    |
| Wood Thrush .....               | Oct. 12  | .....    |
| American Merganser .....        | Nov. 23  | .....    |

The above record is the second for the occurrence of the cerulean warbler at St. Johnsbury. The worm-eating warbler is an equally unusual record for Vermont. There is a specimen of this bird in the Fairbanks museum collection which was taken at St. Johnsbury. The olive-backed thrush is rare at St. Johnsbury. The record for the duck hawk is the first for St. Johnsbury as is that of the greater yellow legs.

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### NOTES FOR 1918

Few winter birds were observed during the extremely cold weather of the winter of 1917-1918. A flock of greater redpolls were seen about St. Johnsbury from March 3 to 12, inclusive. These were the only unusual winter visitors that I recorded. White-winged cross-bills were seen in small flocks April 2 to 6.

On June 8 I saw a pair of rough-winged swallows in a mixed flock of barn and eave swallows. I saw them again on the 9th and a third time on the 21st of June. The last time they were alone.

Three black-crowned night herons were seen and heard on the shore of a small pond near the village on the evening of August 26th.

On August 28 the unusual number of five yellow-billed cuckoos were seen feeding together on tent caterpillars on a wayside tree.

One Hudsonian chickadee was observed in a deep, dark cedar swamp on October 24. During the present month, January, 1919, one has appeared four times at my feeding table with other chickadees.

The first St. Johnsbury record for a snowy owl was made on December 4, when I observed one in a swampy woods near one of our remote rural schools.

Pine and evening grosbeaks appeared early in November, 1918, and are still very numerous January 27, 1919.

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### BIRD MIGRATION AT STAMFORD

*Mary A. Sanford*

January, 1917: Bluejays, chickadees, tree sparrows.

February: Pine grosbeaks, nuthatches, horned larks, snow buntings.

March: 9, crows; 20, starlings; 21, bluebirds, downy woodpeckers; 24, robins; 25, rusty blackbirds, phoebes, meadowlarks; 26, juncos; 29, song sparrows; 31, bronze grackles.



April: 11, brown creepers; 19, yellow redpoll warblers; 22, flickers.

May: 3, barn swallows, chipping sparrows, white-throated sparrows; 7, myrtle warbler; 9, purple finches; 15, tree swallows, field sparrows, bobolinks; 17, bank swallows; 18, chimney swifts, least flycatchers; 19, catbirds, white-crowned sparrows; 20, redstarts, chestnut-sided warblers, blackburnian warblers, magnolia warblers, black and white warblers, pine warblers, black-throated blue warblers, black-throated green warblers, ovenbirds, rose-breasted grosbeaks, brown thrashers, kingbirds; 23, Baltimore orioles, goldfinches, quail, vesper sparrows; 26, Wilson's thrushes, Maryland yellow-throats, spotted sandpipers, eave swallows, red-winged blackbirds; 30, bay-breasted warblers, scarlet tanagers; 31, indigo buntings, blackpoll warblers.

Pine grosbeaks were observed April 21, 1916, a very late date.

### THE RUTLAND LIST

The Rutland migration list was kept as usual by D. E. Kent, G. H. Ross and G. L. Kirk. It showed 153 species for 1917 and 122 for 1918. Records of especial interest are mentioned elsewhere in this Bulletin.

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## UTILIZATION OF OUR NATIVE FRUITS

*Mrs. A. B. Morgan*

The piquant flavor of all compounds made from native fruits comes quite as much from the delight of gathering them as from serving the final product, and when their sparkling color or rich spiciness adds to a winter's meal, June fields or autumn's glory seem to have been caught and held for the occasion.

It has been my privilege to experiment successfully with the useful side of our native fruits, and it occurs to me that others might like a brief guide in following a similar course.

I begin the last week in June in my campaign and gather shad berries, taking them before they are fully ripe, both for their better cooking qualities and to get ahead of the birds. From them I prefer to make shad berry pie which is made like that of blueberry with a cup of sugar, a tablespoonful of flour and a generous pinch of salt. Cooked slowly and well in a crisp crust, the result is truly delicious. Perchance when you are out in search of these berries, you will find little beds of pasture strawberries glowing with fruit, and can gather enough for the first shortcake. It is hardly necessary to tell anyone how to use wild strawberries, but last year when we had literally

bushels of them at "The Highlands," I bottled juice to combine later with currant and apple juice in the proportion of 3 parts strawberry to one of currant and two parts strawberry to one of apple.

As is well known, in all jelly making the active principle called pectin must be present and may be supplied by using apple juice made from the pulp, skin and cores, or by using the white portion of orange peel that has been allowed to stand and then boiled in water. If at any time I have fruit juice that I wish to combine later with apple, I bottle it and then make the jelly fresh when I want it, the flavor and quality being then *prime*. This year I kept both apple and cherry juice till Christmas when I made it up to be served with several different Christmas dinners, the color being a sparkling, holly-berry red. In the same way I have used the juice of the pin cherry, and that from choke cherry when combined with an equal quantity of apple juice and flavored with favorite spices, makes a delicious venison jelly. Thorn apples, especially the fruit of *macrocarpa*, the variety that grows so abundantly here, combined with tart apple juice makes a product of fine substance, and only surpassed in coloring by that made from the high bush cranberry. The fruit of this latter must be gathered before it is dead ripe and may be used alone or in combination. The flavor is marked, some say *bitter*, but has long been regarded of medicinal value, as well as has the elderberry which makes a wine-colored, sweet jelly, or, if preferred, a spiced wine that mellows with age and is good for invalids.

The general rule for making wine from blackberries, grapes or elderberries is this:

Cover fruit with cold water and let stand 24 hours. Crush and strain, adding 3 pounds of sugar to 1 gallon of juice. Put it into wide-mouthed jars and skim frequently for several weeks, next put into cask till March and then strain and bottle.

I have blackberry wine that has been kept for many years and possesses a rich flavor as well as a tonic quality. Blackberry-apple jelly is mild and pleasant and especially good to serve with sponge cake, while raspberry-currant jelly made in the proportion of 2 to 1 reaches, in my judgment, the highest state of jelly perfection.

Plain raspberry juice sweetened to make a rich syrup may be bottled and used as a refreshing drink with the addition of spring water. If preferred, shrub or raspberry vinegar made by the addition of equal quantities of vinegar, berries and sugar may be used instead. Barberries cooked with sweet apples make a rich orange-red jelly which does not require so much sugar as most other fruit juices. Frost grapes make

a racy flavored juice and I prefer to sweeten it "the pint to the pound" to add to its richness and keeping qualities. Apple-grape jelly, 3 to 1, is of much better substance than when the grape is used alone. Care should be taken in not cooking the grapes beyond the point where the juice flows freely. Catchup made of 2 quarts of mashed grapes, enough vinegar to cover, heated and strained, then cooked with 1 cup of sugar, a teaspoonful each of cinnamon and cloves, and a dash of red pepper, makes a savory dressing.

In my childhood one of the yearly events was to go to a swamp each August to gather the smooth gooseberry that grew in such quantities that big pailfuls were carried home, where my mother made rich preserves of them to be served later when we came home hungry from school. To the memory of that flavor and those bright days of family berrying parties may perhaps be ascribed my present delight in these little excursions with our native fruits.

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## NOTES

### SOME EXTRALIMITAL RECORDS

Examination of a series of bulletins on bird migration, issued by the United States Bureau of Biological Survey, shows a number of extralimital records for the occurrence of birds in this state which have not been published in Vermont literature. They are as follows: Wood ibis, Williston, 1897, G. H. Perkins; snowy egret, St. Albans, October, 1890, C. D. Howe; sandhill crane, Lunenburg, Perkins and Howe; long-tailed jaeger, West Castleton, September 7, 1877, Howe.

### WINTER RECORD FOR MOURNING DOVE

According to Dr. Lucretius H. Ross of Bennington, a mourning dove was observed at Shaftsbury January 8, 1919. Robins, meadowlarks and sparrow hawks wintered at Bennington during the season of 1918-19.

### SUCCESS IN TAMING CHICKADEES

Miss Jessie Gilman of Pomfret succeeded in taming chickadees until they would alight on her head and hands to get food.

### WHITE FORM OF LADY'S SLIPPER

Sylvia H. Bliss of East Calais reports the finding of a group of pure white *Cypripedium hirsutum*. She writes: "There are two small clumps of this white lady's slipper in a swamp in the northeastern part of Calais. They grow in company with a large number of the



showy lady's slipper, and I have found them at least three different seasons, one with an interval of a year or two between them when I did not visit the spot. They are vigorous and very beautiful.

#### ADDITION TO VERMONT HEPATIC LIST

Miss Annie Lorenz of Hartford, Conn., writes of the finding of the hepatic, *Marsupella Sullivantii* (De Not) Evans at Mount Mansfield in July, 1917. This is new to Vermont.

#### NEW STATION FOR PANICUM TSUGETORUM

*Panicum tsugetorum* Nash has been found growing in Tinmouth by Dana S. Carpenter of Middletown Springs. The plant was determined by Prof. A. S. Hitchcock. The site was a gravelly-clay roadside.

#### BOHEMIAN WAXWINGS AT HARTLAND

On October 30, 1917, a flock of Bohemian waxwings numbering 100 or more, visited "Sky Farm," Hartland, Vt., Miss Nancy Darling's home, for mountain ash berries, and the next day, when they returned, Mrs. A. B. Morgan was present to observe their feeding. They kept themselves in three squads—one in the ash tree eating berries and two on maple trees in the grove keeping watch.

While feeding they were constantly shifting their positions, and some of the birds frequently lifted their wings in such a manner as to show white along the back edges of each wing. While settling down upon the ash trees, the birds made an odd squeaking sound of satisfaction and all the time while feeding they uttered little notes that implied contentment. Some years previously a flock of half a dozen or so visited the farm.

#### AN INTERESTING ORCHID

A rarely beautiful flowering of the large coral root orchis *Coralorrhiza maculata* was observed by Miss Darling and a visiting botanist while searching in Finley Glen, Hartland, on July 30, 1917, for *Habenaria macrophylla*. The plants occurred both singly and in groups, but all in full bloom, and some of the spikes, a foot or more high, were so crowded as to convey a sense of opulence. The butterfly form of the flowers suggested insects and rendered the plants almost uncanny, though very beautiful in their rose and madder-purple coloring. At the heart of each blossom was a spot of yellow dotted with magenta—the little column, which gave life and lustre to the whole.

At first these leafless orchids were scarcely noticeable in the underbrush among the brown leaves of a former season, but, one by one,

they appeared, after careful search, rising before the vision almost magically, sometimes alone, sometimes in clusters, and exhaling a subtle fragrance as of violets. It seems nothing short of a miracle that such beauty and delicacy can be developed from the defunct roots and leaves of other plants, with only here and there a ray of light.

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#### ANOTHER NELSON'S SPARROW RECORD

Nelson's sparrow, of which a note has been previously published in the bulletin, has appeared at Rutland in three consecutive seasons. The dates are: October 8, 1916; October 2, 1917; October 10, 1918. (Kirk.)

#### BARROW'S GOLDENEYE IN VERMONT

A number of specimens of Barrow's goldeneye, the western form of the whistler duck, were collected on Lake Champlain during the fall of 1917. Birds in the hands of hunters were seen by D. E. Kent and G. L. Kirk.

#### BIG FLIGHT OF SHOREBIRDS

There was a heavy flight of shorebirds at East Pittsford pond on September 15, 1917. Among the species taken which are unusual in Vermont except on Lake Champlain were a black-bellied plover, semi-palmated plover, pectoral sandpiper, least sandpiper and semi-palmated sandpiper. (F. L. Osgood.)

#### CORMORANTS IN THIS STATE

A double-crested cormorant was shot at Lake Bomoseen on October 14, 1917. On the same day two were observed at Bridport on Lake Champlain. There are very few records for this bird in the state.

#### A LAGGARD TEAL

A blue-winged teal was shot at Lake Bomoseen November 6, 1917. This duck is seldom seen in Vermont after September.

#### LATE DATES FOR MIGRANTS

Because of the continued mild weather migratory birds remained unusually late in northern New England during 1918. Some interesting records from Rutland when the last of the given species were seen are as follows: Whippoorwill and brown thrasher, September 23; October 3, black-throated blue, bay-breasted and black and white warbler; October 20, catbird; November 2, ruby-crowned kinglet; November 21, rusty blackbird.



## CALIFORNIA PLANTS DEFY JACK FROST

Mrs. Mary A. Loveland of Norwich writes: "A package of wild flower seeds sent me from California gave much pleasure as the plants grew well and blossomed. To my surprise they withstood frost better than some of our cultivated annuals. A bouquet was picked in November. Among those identified were the California poppy, phacelia, lupine and clarkia."

## NEW SELAGINELLA STATION

Harold G. Rugg of Hanover, N. H., collected *Selaginella apus* at Reading in August, 1918. This is the third Vermont station.

Mr. Rugg also reports a new station for *Aspidium filix-mas* concerning which he writes: "It may be well to record my station for the male fern in Rochester. The plants were growing at an elevation of 2,400 feet and very near some plants of *Aspidium spinulosum*. They were beside an old road which leads from the Rochester-Randolph gap to the ruined summit house on top of Mount Cushman.

## NEW STATION FOR EQUISETUM PRATENSE

Clarence H. Knowlton of Hingham, Mass., while touring Vermont last summer (1918) called on J. G. Underwood at Hartland. Together they visited that famous botanical ground, Hart Island, and in the alluvial, sandy land on the bluff at the upper end of the island, under shrubs and vines, they collected an equisetum which Mr. Knowlton stated he believed was *E. pratense*. This identification has been confirmed by Prof. M. L. Fernald.

## NESTING OF BROWN CREEPER

D. E. Kent of Rutland writes as follows in regard to the nesting of the brown creeper: "Nesting brown creepers are considered rare in and near Rutland county. Some half dozen years ago I found a nest at Pine's pond near Lake Bomoseen, where flooding had killed good sized trees. This was the only locality in which I had ever seen the bird in the nesting period until the spring of 1917 when I found them to be common about Chittenden dam in Chittenden. On June 1, 1918, Owen Durfee of Fall River, Mass., G. L. Kirk of Rutland and the writer were at the reservoir formed by the dam and we found that there were probably 10 to 12 pairs of creepers nesting in a flooded forest. Inundation had caused the death of many large trees and in those which were in just the right stage of decay the bark hung loosely, forming ideal conditions for the peculiar homes of these birds. We found one nest containing six partly incubated eggs."



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## IN MEMORIAM

### MRS. NELLIE HART WOODWORTH

*Harold Goddard Rugg*

Mrs. Nellie Hart Woodworth, a member of the Vermont Bird Club for many years, died March 12, 1918 at Sarasota, Fla. Mrs. Woodworth was born in East Berkshire, Vt., August 17, 1847. She spent a large part of her life in East Berkshire and in St. Albans. She remained in Florida during the winter for the last few years but always returned to Vermont for the summer. The last meeting of the club which she attended was the one at Franklin.

Mrs. Woodworth contributed many articles on birds to various magazines and to the Boston *Transcript*. She also wrote bird poems which were published. She was an intimate friend of John Burroughs and at her death he said: "I can indeed pay a heartfelt tribute to my friend for many years, Mrs. Nellie Hart Woodworth, whose recent death comes to me with a distinct feeling of loss. I know her to have been a woman of fine mind and a warm womanly heart. She had a rare gift for making friends and keeping them. She was a sincere lover of nature and knew the birds as well as her dearest friends."

### ELROY KENT

*George L. Kirk*

Elroy Kent of East Wallingford, who was affiliated with the Vermont Botanical Club since the first years of its existence, died suddenly at his home January 29, 1918. During more than 30 years of his busy life as a farmer, Mr. Kent devoted such spare time as he had at his demand to the pursuit of his hobby, botany. His home being unusually well situated for studying a well-varied flora, he thoroughly explored the territory for miles around and he accumulated an herbarium which is complete from a local standpoint. This collection, which is of especial interest in that it represents the floras of Spectacle Pond and other cold ponds and bogs, is still at Mr. Kent's late home.

While the higher forms of plants were the subjects of Mr. Kent's chief study, he also took a great interest in lichens and fungi.

Mr. Kent is survived by two sons, Duane E. Kent of Rutland and Wyatt A. Kent of Contact, Nev., and a daughter, Mrs. R. H. Mahaffy of Wallingford. The sons are students of bird life.

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